



Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Wednesday January 24th, 2024, 1:15 pm to 2:30 pm

Location – Support Services Building 4210

MINUTES

Start Time: 1:16 pm

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Approved with amendments.

3. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (December 13th, 2023)

- Approved

4. Business arising from previous meeting.

4.1 Campus Updates

- Respiratory illnesses season continues, campus community members are reminded of best practices for hand hygiene and illness management.
- Health, Safety and Well-Being provided updates to the WorkSafe@Western platform development is continuing for radiation safety module.
- Committee was advised the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission will be inspecting Western in February
- Procedural documents for biological safety committee are being revised as part of the updates for health and safety policy updates.
- Winter weather hazards are possible this time of year. Community members are reminded to report hazardous conditions to Facilities Management and be aware of slip and trip hazards in outdoor areas.
- Facilities Management described the work that is done in the winter maintenance plan to keep campus operational. Each snow and weather event is unique and can be required at all hours.

5. Review and Assess Trends

5.1 Accident/Injury Report

- As of the end of December 2023, 366 incidents have been reported on campus: 215 First Aid related incidents, 63 Lost Time related incidents, 76 Health Care related incidents and 12 Near miss/Hazard reports.
- The committee reviewed 24 incidents that occurred in December. 13 First Aid, 4 Lost Time, 7 Health Care.
- Monthly incident rates for November were compared to historical data (3 and 5 year averages) for this month on campus and were higher than the 5 year average.

5.2 Critical injuries

- Two critical injury incidents were reported to the committee.

5.3 Workplace Inspections

- A review of the finding from the 2023 inspection schedule was presented.
- A draft schedule for the 2024 inspection schedule for the JOHSC was shared.
- Reportable Items.
 - 12 orders are open for action.
 - 12 items are past due from previous inspections.

5.4 Work Refusals

- None to report.

5.5 Safety Recommendations Submitted to the JOHSC

- None to report.

5.6 Workplace Violence and Harassment Report (Bill 168)

- None to report.
- Western Special Constable Service reported on some initiatives to maintain a safe campus. These include contracted security personnel and an increase in daytime schedules for constables.

6. New Business

6.1 Varied Procedure

- Facilities Management presented rationale for a varied procedure for fan filter changes in the 14 asbestos containing buildings.
- FM work procedures (WP-57) for this are currently under review and steps to maintain worker safety were presented to the committee.
- Facilities management presented information from third party reporting to support the use of a varied procedure.
- Committee consensus was that a varied procedure can be developed as part of the updated WP-57 that is under revision with Facilities Management.

6.2 Ministry of Labour Field Visits

- Inspectors from the Ministry of Labour were on site for investigation of critical injuries. Procedures for reporting critical injury were discussed and opportunities to improve the process are to be looked at by Health Safety and Well-being in partnership with all stakeholders on campus

7. Adjournment

End Time: 2:08 pm

Upcoming Meeting Dates

2024- March 6th, April 10th, May 22nd, June 26th

Worker Representatives (Attendees in bold)

Barry Fletcher, CUPE 2361 (Alternate)

Caitlin Corcoran, UWOSA

Vacant, SAGE

Cleusa De Oliveira, UWOSA

Darryl Stanley, CUPE 2361

Felix Lee, UWOFA

George Dugbartey, PSAC 610

Gurpreet Dhami, PMA

Jeff Van Haarlem, OPSEU

Lesley Oliver, PMA (Alternate)

Lewis Pellar, IUOE

Peter Chidiac, UWOFA

Sandy Pavia, CUPE 2692

Stephen Crowe, IUOE (Alternate)

Employer Representatives

Bryan Wakefield

Craig Clifford

Chris Bumbacco

Mike Gaylard

Resources

Jane O'Brien

Jean-Claude Aubin

Kyle Pollard

Louise Koza